

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended): A method for preparing a beverage supplemented with native whey protein or native casein protein, comprising the following steps:
 - a) adding trehalose to liquid including native whey protein or native casein protein; wherein the trehalose and the native whey protein or native casein protein form a mixture; and wherein the trehalose is substantially distributed throughout the mixture;
 - b) removing water from the mixture, wherein the mixture is substantially dehydrated;
 - c) using adding the mixture as a component of a beverage and rehydrating the mixture; wherein the mixture has a substantially neutral effect on the flavor of the beverage; and wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is substantially undamaged with the mixture is rehydrated.
2. (Currently amended): A method for preparing a beverage, comprising the following steps:
 - a) adding trehalose to liquid including native whey protein or native casein protein; wherein the trehalose and the native whey protein or native casein protein form a mixture, and wherein the trehalose is substantially distributed throughout mixture;
 - b) removing water from the mixture, wherein the mixture is substantially dehydrated;
 - c) adding the mixture to a beverage and rehydrating the mixture; wherein the mixture has a substantially neutral effect on the flavor of the beverage; and wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is substantially undamaged when the mixture is rehydrated.
3. (Cancelled)

Amendment and Response

First Names Inventor: Zoerb, Hans

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Title: BEVERAGE ADDITIVE MIXTURE OF TREHALOSE AND PROTEIN

4. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is in a form selected from the group consisting of whey protein isolate, whey protein concentrate, casein protein isolate and casein protein concentrate.
5. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the beverage is selected from the group consisting of sport beverages, meal replacement beverages, nutritional supplement beverages, fruit juices, and soda pop.
6. (Currently Amended): A method for preparing an additive for a beverage, comprising the following steps:
 - a) adding trehalose to liquid including native whey protein or native casein protein; wherein the trehalose and the native whey protein or native casein protein form a mixture; and wherein the trehalose is substantially distributed throughout the mixture;
 - b) removing water from the mixture; wherein the mixture is substantially dehydrated;
 - c) formulating an additive comprising the substantially dehydrated mixture; wherein the additive has a substantially neutral effect on the flavor of the beverage; and wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is substantially undamaged when the mixture is rehydrated.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is in a form selected from the group consisting of whey protein isolate, whey protein concentrate, casein protein isolate and casein protein concentrate.

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10. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein the beverage is selected from the group consisting of sport beverages, meal replacement beverages, nutritional supplement beverages, fruit juices, and soda pop.
11. (Currently amended): An additive for a beverage, comprising a substantially dehydrated mixture of native whey protein or native casein protein and trehalose; wherein the trehalose is substantially distributed throughout the mixture; and wherein the additive has a substantially neutral effect on the flavor of the beverage; and wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is substantially undamaged when the mixture is rehydrated.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Previously Presented): The additive according to claim 11, wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is in a form selected from the group consisting of whey protein isolate, whey protein concentrate, casein protein isolate and casein protein concentrate.
15. (Previously Presented): The additive according to claim 11, wherein the beverage is selected from the group consisting of sport beverages, meal replacement beverages, nutritional supplement beverages, fruit juices, and soda pop.
16. (Currently amended): A beverage comprising an additive; wherein the additive comprises a substantially dehydrated mixture of native whey protein or native casein protein and trehalose; wherein the trehalose is substantially distributed throughout the mixture; and wherein the additive has a substantially neutral effect on the flavor of the beverage; and wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is substantially undamaged when the mixture is rehydrated.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)

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19. (Previously Presented): The beverage according to claim 16, wherein the native whey protein or native casein protein is in a form selected from the group consisting of whey protein isolate, whey protein concentrate, casein protein isolate and casein protein concentrate.
20. (Previously Presented): The additive according to claim 16, wherein the beverage is selected from the group consisting of sport beverages, meal replacement beverages, nutritional supplement beverages, fruit juices, and soda pop.
21. (Previously Presented): A beverage prepared by the method described in claim 2.
22. (Previously Presented): An additive prepared by the method described in claim 6.
23. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the beverage is a flavored beverage.
24. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the mixture comprises relative amounts of trehalose to native whey protein or native casein protein ranging from weight ratios of about 5:95 to about 99:1.
25. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the mixture comprises relative amounts of trehalose to native whey protein or native casein protein in a weight ratio of about 50:50.
26. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the amount of mixture used in step (c) provides the native whey protein or native casein protein in an amount to make up about 0.5% to about 20% of the beverage.
27. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 2, wherein the amount of mixture used in step (c) provides the native whey protein or native casein protein in an amount to make up about 1.67% of the beverage.

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28. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein the mixture comprises relative amounts of trehalose to native whey protein or native casein protein ranging from weight ratios of about 5:95 to about 99:1.
29. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein the mixture comprises relative amounts of trehalose to native whey protein or native casein protein in a weight ratio of about 50:50.